MoU between Iran and Pakistan on Indo-Iran gas project

3197. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan and Iran has signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Islamabad to undertake a pre-feasibility study for proposed 20,600 kilometer Iran-India Gas pipeline;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard; and

(c) what are the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The Government have seen reports that Pakistan and Iran have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a pre-feasibility study of transit of Iranian gas through Pakistan.

(b) and (c) The proposal of supply of Iranian gas to India is a bilateral matter between India and Iran. The Government of India and the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran have set up an Indo-Iran Joint Committee to examine all aspects relating to import of natural gas from Iran to India through pipeline including on-land and off-shore deep water pipeline outside the continental shelf/margin of Pakistan.

Additional gas requirement of Rajasthan

3198. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has requested M/s GAIL for additional gas to 5 lacs SCMD for a period of 15 years from October, 2002 from OIL/ONGC Wells around Ramgarh for the Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station, as against supply of 2 lacs SCMD Gas for 10 years offered by M/s GAIL;

(b) if so, the reasons for requirement of additional gas;

(c) the availability of gas required with M/s GAIL; and

(d) what is Government's response to the Rajasthan Government's request?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) On the offer made by Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) for supply of additional 0.2 million standard cubic meters per day (MMSCMD) of natural gas for 10 years from October, 2002 based on the projected availability indicated by Oil India Limited (OIL) and the existing allocation of 0.75 MMSCMDS of natural gas to Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) from Dandewala, Tanot and Gamnewala fields of OIL/ ONGC for the Ramgarh Thermal Power Project, M/s Rajasthan Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RVUNL) has requested for additional supply of 0.6 MMSCMD of natural gas from April, 2002 for expansion of its Ramgarh Thermal Power Station, Stage-II and operation of additional gas/steam turbines in the project.

(c) Presently, GAIL is supplying natural gas at an average of 0.47 MMSCMD to RSEB for Ramgarh Thermal Power Project against the contracted quantity of 0.55 MMSCMD of the existing allocation of 0.75 MMSCMD.

(d) GAIL is exploring the possibility for supplying re-gasified Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) through its pipeline network from LNG terminal of petronet LNG Limited at Dahej (Gujarat) to various States in Northern India including Rajasthan. The import LNG at Dahej terminal is to commenced in December, 2003.

Reconstitution of dealers in Delhi

3199. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps/LPG distributorships which are being run in Delhi under the benami transactions;

(b) whether attempts are being made by oil corporations' officers to regularise them by way of reconstituting these dealerships; and

(c) by what time proper action shall be initiated against the officers found responsible for this illegal Act?